

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 13731 181306Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-07  
IO-13 /078 W  
-----082094 181826Z /44

R 181159Z AUG 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8448  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 13731

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UR EG OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)  
SUBJ: SOVIET INTEREST IN VANCE VISIT

1. SOVIET COUNSELOR DERKOVSKY CALLED ON POLCOUNS AUGUST 17  
TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP. POLCOUNS  
NOTED THAT SECRETARY WOULD BE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR  
DOBRYNIN THIS WEEK AND THAT SOVIETS HAD BEEN KEPT  
CLOSELY INFORMED OF U.S. ACTIVITIES IN M.E. THROUGHOUT  
PAST YEAR. THERE WAS, THEREFORE, LITTLE POLCOUNS COULD  
ADD TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS THAT HAD BEEN MADE DURING AND  
SUBSEQUENT TO VISIT.

2. DERKOVSKY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ADMINISTRATION KEEPING  
SOVIETS INFORMED ON PEACE PROCESS, BUT COMPLAINED THAT  
THIS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT. USSR AND U.S., HE SAID, HAD  
MUTUAL INTERESTS IN REGIONAL STABILITY IN MIDDLE EAST.  
IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT THAT U.S. NOT DEAL SOVIETS OUT  
SINCE UUSR HAD RESPONSIBILITY AS GREAT POWER AND CO-  
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CHAIRMAN OF MEPC. POLCOUNS NOTED THAT "CIRCUMSTANCES"  
(I.E. SOVIET ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL  
AND POOR STATE OF RELATIONS WITH EGYPT) MADE IT DIFFICULT  
FOR SOVIETS TO PLAY KIND OF INTERMEDIARY ROLE THAT PARTIES  
HAVE THRUST UPON U.S. IN VIEW THESE CIRCUMSTANCES,  
POLCOUNS ASKED WHAT U.S. COULD DO BEYOND US-USSR CONSUL-  
TATIONS ALREADY TAKING PLACE. DERKOVSKY HAD NO IDEAS

ABOUT HOW SOVIETS COULD PLAY MORE ACTIVE ROLE, BUT HE INSISTED THAT IT WAS UP TO U.S. TO FIND WAY FOR SOVIETS TO DO SO. HE WAS CLEARLY SUSPICIOUS THAT "WORKING GROUP" PROPOSAL HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO CUT OUT SOVIETS ALTOGETHER. POLCOUNS PROTESTED POINTING TO SECRETARY'S STATEMENTS AT LEXANDRIA PRESS CONFERENCE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE SOVIET EXPRESSIONS OF DISCONTENT AND APPREHENSION ABOUT BEING LEFT OUT OF PEACE PROCESS HAVE BEEN COMMON FOR MANY YEARS, DOERKOVSKY WAS MORE INSISTENT AND ACCUSING THAT HAS RECENTLY BEEN THE CASE, AT LEAST INCAIRO. THIS MAY BE RESULT CONBINATION OF SOVIET SUSPICION OVER " WORKING GROUP" PROPOSAL AND RECENT GOE DECISION TO SUSPEND COTTON EXPORTS TO USSR, AN ACTION WHICH SOVIETS ALMOST CERTAINLY BELIEVE WAS TAKEN IN COLLUSION WITH U.S.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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